

Glenda Wiles

From: Raymond Meeks [raymondmeeks@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 7:44 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Cc: Carlotta Grandstaff
Subject: more

Dear Carlotta and Glenda,

the peace was wonderful while it lasted. if you had anything to do with delivering us the silence from the incessant
 copter training prior to the last two weeks, thank you. But it's back, they're back, Mr Jessop, I believe. a few nights ago, until 10:30, at least that was when I finally buried my head in the pillows. (i'm not exaggerating)

Tonight, it's been a continuous hour and half of rotations. his copter seems louder than the one previous.

We've decided to sell our house and move. enough! who knows how long until we can sell, but in the meantime,

anything you all can and will do for us is so greatly appreciated. please reference my prior letter, attached below.

many thanks in advance

ray and maryellen meeks
 406.363.2773

Begin forwarded message:

From: Raymond Meeks <raymondmeeks@earthlink.net>
Date: May 2, 2008 10:18:49 AM MDT
To: Glenda Wiles <gwiles@ravallicounty.mt.gov>
Subject: Friday Morning

Dear Glenda and Carlotta,

I was planning to attend this morning meeting before making a trip to Butte today, but have found that my wife has mistakenly placed my car keys in her purse, which is in Corvallis.

So instead, I'll be riding my bike to Corvallis in a few minutes to fetch keys and return.

It'll likely be too late for your meeting, so I'll leave you with my airport/helicopter concerns now.

~ Helicopter training is occurring nearly every day now and almost continuously throughout the day.

One neighbor describes the noise and traffic as reminiscent of the attack sequence from "Apocalypse Now".

For us, it's more reminiscent of big city law enforcement with circling helicopters. There's no escaping

the drone, especially as the mountains on both sides of our lovely valley bounce the sound

waves right
 back into the center. Last week, we were waken from sleep at 10:45 p.m. with training runs. the next night
 and last night, the copters were training at 9:30. As summer approaches and we hope to sleep with windows
 open and sunlight lasting until 10:30, how many runs do these helicopters intend to make. Are there no limits
 to their imposing noise pollution. The noise in our yard is maddening as the helicopters make sharp decent
 and climbs as part of the training, I imagine. This strain creates harsher noise. You are all welcome to
 come to our house to experience this on any given day. As an artist, I work from home and am subject to
 the full day of training, which often impairs my work as I do sound recordings.

~ We're wondering if hours of operation might be imposed on the training, that they should cease
 training after 5:00 or 6:00 latest, to allow for some peace in the evenings. Or if they might train
 every other day. We're hoping for some peace and quiet.

~ Also wondering if a specific training location outside of Hamilton might be arranged, a less populated
 area where the impact of noise might be abated.

We're open to any number of compromises, just asking for some peace. We moved into our home on Hillcrest
 6 years ago with no delusions of serene quiet, understanding that the airport was nearby. The helicopter
 training is a more recent enterprise and has increased two-fold for the last three years.

It's worth mentioning that Page Gough has returned every one of my phone calls and has been attentive.

many thanks,

ray meeks
 406.363.2773